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INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3 TAGS:PFOR, IS, EG SUBJECT:SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PERES SEPT. 17

TEL AVIV EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR GENEVA EYES ONLY FOR DEPUTY ASST SEC SAUNDERS

- 1. SECRETARY MET WITH PERES, ACCOMPANIED BY DINITZ, FOR AN HOUR AND A QUARTER WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE GENEVA WORKING GROUP QUESTIONS, CARGO THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL, AND ISRAELI MILITARY REQUESTS.
- 2. GENEVA: PERES WAS UNDER IMPRESSION THAT THINGS WERE GOING WELL IN GENEVA. SECRETARY DEMURRED, SAYING WE WERE GETTING MANY COMPLAINTS FROM THE EGYPTIANS. GENERAL SHAFIR HAD TAKEN AN EGYPTIAN ASIDE AND CONFIDED THEY WANTED TO DELAY REDEPLOYMENTS IN NORTH UNTIL UNDOF WAS RENEWED. EGYPTIANS WERE INFURIATED, THREATENING TO APPLY LINKAGE THEMSELVES. SECRETARY SAID IT WOULD SEEM IN ISRAELI INTEREST TO AVOID ESTABLISHING LINKAGE BETWEEN SINAI SECRET

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AGREEMENT AND SYRIA. PERES SAID HE BELIEVED LATEST

REPORTS SHOWED THINGS CALMING DOWN.

3. SECRETARY POINTED OUT, AS A FRIEND, THAT ISRAEL HAD BEST OPPORTUNITY SINCE ITS CREATION TO GET INTO A SENSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE ARAB STATE. WITH THE PRESSURE EGYPT WAS UNDER, EGYPTIANS WERE LOOKING FOR STRAWS INDICATING

ISRAELI ATTITUDES. PERES COMMENTED THAT SADAT'S POSITION IN EGYPT APPEARED TO BE QUITE STRONG. THE SECRETARY SAID WE HAD REPORTS TOO THAT ARAB CRITICISM WAS REINFORCING EGYPTIAN NATIONALISM IN EGYPT. THIS WAS ALL THE MORE REASON WHY ISRAEL FACED AN HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY AND ITS APPROACH IN WORKING GROUP SHOULD REFLECT THIS.

- 4. SPECIFIC ISSUES WERE THEN DISCUSSED AS FOLLOWS:
- -- CIVILIANS IN NORTHERN PART OF NORTHERN BUFFER ZONE: SECRETARY SAID WE AGREED THERE COULD NOT BE UNLIMITED BACK AND FORTH MOVEMENT OF CIVILIANS.
- -- PHASING OF WITHDRAWAL: SECRETARY STRONGLY URGED THAT GOI ALLOW SOME PHYSICAL MOVEMENT TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE FEBRUARY. HE OFFERED, ON PERSONAL BASIS (UNCLEARED WITH EGYPTIANS), SUGGESTION THAT IDF GIVE UP EARLIER IN PROCESS HALF ITS LIMITED ARMAMENTS ZONE TO UN AND LET EGYPTIANS TAKE HALF THE UN BUFFER ZONE. THEN FEW MONTHS LATER, UN AND EGYPTIANS WOULD ADVANCE REST OF DISTANCE. PERES POINTED OUT THAT IDF HAD CAMPS IN ITS LIMITED ARMAMENTS ZONE, E.G., AT BELUZA AND TAASA, BUT HE DID NOT OTHERWISE COMMENT ON THE IDEA. HE NOTED THAT ISRAEL HAD ON TUESDAY SUGGESTED A PHASED-WITHDRAWAL PLAN ON THE SOUTHERN PART. THERE WERE CAMPS THERE BUT GOI HAD AGREED THE EGYPTIANS COULD COME IN.
- -- WATER: PERES ALSO SAID EGYPTIANS WERE LAYING A WATER PIPELINE BUT IN THE MEANTIME ISRAEL WOULD SUPPLY THEM FROM WATER IN THEIR POSSESSION. THE SECRETARY INDICATED THIS SEEMED ALL RIGHT.
- -- REMOVAL OF MOBILE ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT: SECRETARY SECRET

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RAISED THE ISSUE. PERES SAID ISRAEL WAS LEAVING UNTOUCHED EQUIPMENT IT FOUND THERE IN 1967 OR HAD PURCHASED JOINTLY WITH THE ITALIANS SINCE THEN. HOWEVER, EQUIPMENT THEY PURCHASED THEMSELVES--WHICH HE SAID WAS HARD TO BUY BECAUSE OF THE BOYCOTT AGAINST THEM--WAS THEIR INVESTMENT, AND ONLY THIS WAS BEING REMOVED. SISCO REITERATED THIS WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE MAGNANIMOUS. PERES SAID EGYPTIANS HAD REQUESTED AND ISRAEL HAD PROMISED THE GOE

A DETAILED INVENTORY BY CATEGORIES.

- -- INJECTING ISSUES IN PROTOCOL: SECRETARY SAID GOI SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO INJECT MATTERS IN THE PROTOCOL THAT HAD BEEN REJECTED IN THE ANNEX. PERES ADMITTED THIS WAS TRUE, E.G., ON OVER-FLIGHTS OF BUFFER ZONE OR LIMITS ON ORGANIC EQUIPMENT OF EGYPTIAN BATTALIONS IN LIMITED FORCES ZONE. GOI ATTITUDE WAS THAT IT WAS WORTH ASKING; THEY DID NOT CLAIM IT WAS AGREED.
- -- POLICE: PERES NOTED ALSO GOI PROPOSAL ON POLICE, NAMELY TO ALLOW 400 PERMANENTLY STATIONED POLICE AND AN ADDITIONAL TWO RELIEF SHIFTS OF 150 EACH, UNARMED. ISRAEL WAS WILLING TO REEXAMINE THE NUMBERS IN THE FUTURE IF LOCAL POPULATION GREW. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WAS UNFAMILIAR WITH THIS. HE SAID WE WOULD STAY OUT OF MOST OF THESE ISSUES AND LET THE PARTIES SETTLE THEM.
- -- SIGNATURE OF PROTOCOL; TIMING: PERES SAID HE EXPECTED GENEVA WORK TO BE COMPLETED BY ABOUT THE 22ND. GOI PLANNED TO INITIAL THE PROTOCOL THEN BUT NOT SIGN UNTIL CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF U.S. PROPOSAL WAS DONE. SECRETARY AGREED WITH THIS. HE STRESSED THAT THE PARTIES SHOULD FINISH QUICKLY. SISCO POINTED OUT THAT EARLY COMPLETION OF GENEVA WOULD ALSO HELP STIMULATE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.
- -- SOVIET OBSERVERS: PERES REPORTED SIILASVUO'S SUGGESTION THAT SOVIET OBSERVERS BE IN THE SOUTHERN CORRIDOR. GOI HAD REJECTED THIS. SECRETARY SAID USG WOULD STRONGLY BACK THIS REJECTION. FYI. SISCO COMMUNICATED THIS TO URQUHART, WHO AGREED TO COOL SIILASVUO ON THIS. END FYI. -- LOCATION OF AMERICAN STATIONS; PERES POINTED OUT THAT NONE OF THE AMERICAN STATIONS WAS ON A ROAD. SECRETARY SECRET

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POINTED OUT THAT IN THE GIDDI THERE WAS NO OTHER PLACE WHERE ANYTHING COULD BE SEEN. DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE. SECRETARY SAID THIS HAD ALL BEEN DEALT WITH AT TECHNICAL LEVEL.

5. CARGOES: PERES RAISED THE QUESTION OF SENDING AN ISRAELI CARGO THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL, STRESSING IT WOULD BE A MAJOR ISSUE IN THE KNESSET AND GOI COULD NOT SIGN UNTIL A SHIP HAD GONE THROUGH. SECRETARY SAID WE RECOGNIZED VALIDITY OF ISRAELI POSITION WITHOUT ANY QUESTION. HE RECOMMENDED THEY FINISH THE PROTOCOL FIRST AND LET US GO BACK TO THE EGYPTIANS THEN. USG COULD GIVE GOI ANY ASSURANCE IT WANTED THAT WE WOULD BACK THEIR POSITION ON RIGHT TO SEND CARGOES THROUGH CANAL. THERE WAS NO LEGAL DOUBT, BUT TIMING WAS A POLITICAL QUESTION.

- 6. MISSING BODIES: SECRETARY THEN REPORTED TO PERES THAT SADAT HAD TOLD US HE HAD NINE MISSING BODIES TO TURN OVER TO ISRAEL. PERES EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE.
- 7. MILITARY REQUESTS: PERES THEN RAISED MILITARY ITEMS. AT SECRETARY"S REQUEST HE LISTED HALF DOZEN ITEMS THAT WERE HIGHEST PRIORITY. SECRETARY SAID HE SHOULD RAISE THEM WITH SCHLESINGER AND THEN THEY COULD TALK AGAIN. PERES ALSO REITERATED HIS PROPO AL FOR "UNTIED FUNDS" TO

SPEND ON R. & D. AND DEFENSE INDUSTRIES IN ISRAEL AND FOR BUILDING FORTIFICATIONS FOR NEW DEFENSE LINE. HE PROPOSED DOLS 180 MILLION ANNUALLY, OF WHICH DOLS 150 MILLION IN THE FIRST YEAR WOULD BE DEVOTED TO THE NEW DEFENSE LINE. GOI BELIEVED USG HAD THE POWER TO DO THIS UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT. SECRETARY REPLIED WE WERE STILL STUDYING LEGALITIES OF THE MATTER.

8. SECRETARY AND PERES AGREED TO MEET AGAIN SATURDAY FOR BREAKFAST. KISSINGER

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